

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

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ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 L-02 OIC-02 PA-01

PRS-01 SS-15 NSC-05 /092 W

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P 162252Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9540

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 12640

NESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, OCON, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: UNESCO 97TH EXBD: ITEMS 4.1 AND 3.1

1. MAY 16 PROGRAM COMMISSION ADOPTED ITS REPORT TO
PLENARY ITEMS 4.1.1, 4.7.1, 4.3.1 AND 4.4.1, AS WELL AS
4.3.2, 7.1 AND 7.3, 7.6 AND 7.8.

2. REPORT WILL CONTAIN FOLLOWING PARA 9 DRAFTED BY
US: QUOTE: AT THE CONCLUSION OF ITEM 4.1.1, ONE
MEMBER EXPLAINED HIS VOTE ON THE RESOLUTIONS INVITING
STATES TO INTERGOVERNMENTAL MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES.
HE FOCUSED IN PARTICULAR ON THE EXPLANATION OF HIS
NEGATIVE VOTE ON THE TWO RESOLUTIONS CONCERNING INVITA-
TIONS TO A MEETING OF GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS AND TO AN
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE TO BE EXTENDED TO EUROPEAN AND
ARAB STATES BORDERING ON THE MEDITERRANEAN FOR THE PUR-
POSE OF DRAFTING A CONVENTION ON THE RECOGNITION OF
HIGHER STUDIES AND DEGREES. HE STRESSED THE EMPHASIS
GIVEN BY THE EIGHTEENTH SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFER-
ENCE TO THE "FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE WHEREBY EVERY MEMBER
STATE HAD THE RIGHT AND DUTY TO PARTICIPATE FULLY AND
REGULARLY IN THE ORGANIZATION'S REGIONAL AND INTERNA-
TIONAL ACTIVITIES," OBSERVING THAT THE FAILURE OF THE
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RESOLUTIONS TO PROVIDE INVITATIONS TO ISRAEL, ONE OF THE

STATES BORDERING ON THE MEDITERRANEAN, UNDERLINED THE ANOMALOUS SITUATION NOW EXISTING IN UNESCO. HE ADDED THAT INTELLECTUALS AND ACADEMICIANS IN THE UNITED STATES WOULD NOT UNDERSTAND THIS FURTHER DISCRIMINATORY DECISION TAKEN IN CONTRADICTION TO UNESCO'S PRINCIPLES.

HE ALSO EXPLAINED HIS ABSTENTION ON OTHER RESOLUTIONS ON ITEMS 4.1.1, 4.2.1, 4.3.1 AND 4.4.1 WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THAT INVOLVING INVITATIONS TO THE LATIN AMERICAN CONFERENCE ON COMMUNICATIONS AS BASED UPON UNITED STATES RESERVATIONS ABOUT THE ADVISABILITY OF INVITING NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENTS TO PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVERS IN TECHNICAL CONFERENCES. HE NOTED THAT HIS ABSTENTION ON THE RESOLUTION INVOLVING THE CONFERENCE OF MINISTERS OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SPORT WAS ALSO RELATED TO THE SECRETARIAT'S ADDITION OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIET-NAM TO THE LIST OF INVITEES. HE CONCLUDED COMMENDING THE DIRECTOR GENERAL FOR HIS EFFECTIVE EFFORTS TO FOCUS THE WORK OF THE ORGANIZATION ON ITS BASIC PURPOSES, URGING THAT THE NECESSARY STEPS BE TAKEN TO SUPPORT HIM IN THIS EFFORT. END QUOTE.

3. AMBASSADOR EL-WAKIL, AS PART OF DEBATE ON COMMISSION REPORT AMENDED SUMMARY OF HIS MAY 9 STATEMENT IN THE REPORT TO ADD FINAL SENTENCE "NOTHING WOULD IMPEDE ISRAEL TO ADHERE TO A CONVENTION WHICH MIGHT BE DEVELOPED BETWEEN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES". EXPERIENCED UNESCO HANDS ATTACH CONSIDERABLE SIGNIFICANCE TO THIS STATEMENT. VAN USSEL, BELGIUM, TOLD PERMREP JONES HE BELIEVED IT TO BE OF "HISTORIC" SIGNIFICANCE. THIS SENTIMENT WAS ECHOED BY BERNARD DE HOOG, NETHERLANDS, WHO IS ATTENDING SESSION. HE TOLD US THAT WHEN HE CHECKED WITH WAKIL, WAKIL CONFIRMED THAT HE WOULD SEE NO OBJECTION TO INCLUSION OF ISRAEL IN MEETING OF EUROPEAN GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS (OCTOBER 13-17) IN HELSINKI TO CONSIDER CONVENTION ON EUROPEAN STATE DIPLOMA EQUIVALENCY AND THAT HIS POSITION HAD BEEN TAKEN WITH KNOWLEDGE OF ARAB GROUP.

4. INTERPRETATION IS THAT EGYPT, AND PRESUMABLY
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OTHER ARAB STATES, WOULD NO LONGER OBJECT TO ISRAEL'S BEING INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN MEETINGS OF THE EUROPEAN REGION. ALTHOUGH EL WAKIL MADE SIMILAR STATEMENT DURING COMMISSION DEBATE IT WAS NOT RECORDED IN THE SUMMARY REPORT. HIS INTERVENTION TO INSURE IT BEING INCLUDED IN WRITTEN RECORDS INDICATES IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHED TO IT AND PROBABILITY THAT EL WAKIL WAS ACTING UNDER INSTRUCTION.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 12640

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5. FRENCH DEPUTY PERMREP CHESNEAU INDICATED AT MORNING SESSION IN CONVERSATION WITH JONES THAT WHEN REPORT ADOPTED IN PLENARY AFTERNOON MAY 21 HE MIGHT WELL BE INSTRUCTED TO SEEK SEPARATE VOTES ON FIRST TWO RESOLUTIONS UNDER 4.1.1 IN ORDER TO REGISTER OPPOSITION TO CERTAIN ALM'S TO PARTICIPATE AS OBSERVERS. HOWEVER, IN LATER CONVERSATION, CHESNEAU STATED HE WAS PERSONALLY AGAINST REOPENING THE VOTE AND WOULD URGE HIS GOVERNMENT NOT TO DO SO. CONVERSATIONS WITH WE'S ELICITED THAT THEY THINK IT WOULD BE UNWISE FOR THE FRENCH TO RE-OPEN THE VOTE AND THEY HAVE PROBABLY CONVEYED THIS TO THEM.

6. FRENCH MOVE COULD OPEN UP SEPARATE VOTING SO THAT WE MAY, IF DESIRED, SEEK SEPARATE VOTE ON SUCCEEDING TWO RESOLUTIONS UNDER 4.1.1 ON MEDITERRANEAN MEETING AND CONFERENCE, EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE IF OTHERS DID SO. WE DO NOT EXPECT VOTE WOULD PRODUCE MUCH CHANGE ALTHOUGH ISRAELI ACTIVITY MAY YIELD A FEW MORE ABSTENTIONS. WITH LIKELY PRESS ATTENDANCE, SEPARATE VOTE WILL HIGHLIGHT ISRAELI ISOLATION.

7. OUR EFFORT TO GET SOME HELPFUL LANGUAGE INTO SEPARATE SECTION OF BOARD RESOLUTION ON DG'S REPORT IS PRO-CONFIDENTIAL

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CEEDING. CHAIRMAN OF DRAFTING GROUP APPEARS RECEPTIVE TO FOLLOWING SUGGESTION JONES PASSED TO HER MAY 16:
QUOTE: THE BOARD MAY WISH TO REFLECT AND SHARE THE CONCERN EXPRESSED ELOQUENTLY BY THE DIRECTOR GENERAL ON MAY 13 AND THE BOARD CHAIRMAN, MAY 15 FOR HEALING THE DIVISIONS AND TENSIONS ARISING FROM THE LAST SESSION OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE. IT MAY WISH FURTHER TO ENDORSE THEIR CALLS FOR UNDERSTANDING, MUTUAL TOLERANCE, AND WILLINGNESS FOR DIALOGUE IN THE PURSUIT OF CONCERTED ACTION TO REMOVE THESE TENSIONS AND TO FIND JUST SOLUTIONS. IT MAY WISH TO NOTE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL'S REMARKS THAT "INTERDEPENDENCE CANNOT BE BASED ON INEQUALITY" AND TO ENDORSE FULL AND EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF ALL MEMBER STATES IN THE WORK AND ACTIVITY OF UNESCO AS A GOAL AND OBJECTIVE OF THE ORGANIZATION ITSELF. END QUOTE.

8. IF THIS EFFORT SUCCESSFUL, WE CONTINUE TO RECOMMEND BUILDING UP AND ACCENTING DG, BOARD CHAIRMAN, AND BOARD EXPRESSIONS OF THIS TYPE AND NOT ACCENTING FURTHER THE MEDITERRANEAN CONFERENCE BY CALLING FOR SEPARATE VOTE.

9. FOLLOWING SUCH STRATEGY, WE WOULD ABSTAIN ON REST OF SECTIONS 4.1.1, 4.7.1, 4.3.1 AND 4.4.1 OF PROGRAM COMMISSION REPORT MAKING A BRIEF STATEMENT AT END TO EFFECT THAT HAD THERE BEEN SEPARATE VOTING WE WOULD HAVE OPPOSED RESOLUTIONS ON MEDITERRANEAN MEETING AND CONFERENCE FOR REASONS CONTAINED IN PARA 9 OF REPORT.

10. IN SUBSEQUENT STATEMENT ON ITEM 3.1 SAME AFTERNOON, WE WOULD POINT UP SECTION OF RESOLUTION ON DG REPORT WHICH WE ARE STIMULATING. WE WOULD CITE IT AND THE SENTIMENTS EXPRESSED BY THE DG AND BOARD CHAIRMAN AS APPROPRIATE GUIDANCE FOR THE COMING MONTHS AND FOR THE SECRETARIAT APPROACH BOTH TO HEALING EXISTING TENSIONS AND HANDLING FUTURE CONFERENCES.
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